

## HENRY VEEDER TELLS STORY OF SECRET MEETINGS OF "P. O. BOX 247" IN COUNSELMAN BUILDING

Henry Veeder, son of Albert H. Veeder, took the stand late yesterday afternoon, at the trial of the millionaire packers.

The son of the man who planned the billion dollar combine was secretary of the old pool of the packers that was disguised under the alias of "P. O. Box 247."

This is the story of how that pool was worked as Henry Veeder told it in Judge Carpenter's court room yesterday.

Gustavus F. Swift, the father of the present generation of Swifts, conceived the idea.

He called a conference of the Armour, the Morris, the Cudahy and the Hammond interests.

They agreed to combine, and to hold weekly meetings, and they appointed Henry Veeder their secretary and arbiter of all their differences.

For them Veeder rented the whole of the sixth floor of the Counselman building.

Only one room of this floor, a large musty room in the rear, sparsely furnished with a big table and a dozen plain chairs, was ever used by the packers.

There was no name on the door of the room. There was no desk in the room. There was no letter paper kept. There was nothing done that might lead to identification of the purpose of the meetings; nothing that could be used as evidence of the combine.

While they were in conference,

the old millionaire packers had no names.

The Armours were known as "A"; the Armour Packing Company as "B"; the Cudahy firm as "C"; the G. H. Hammond Company as "D"; a subsidiary of Morris and Company as "E"; Morris and Company as "F"; Ewitt and Company as "G"; and, later, when Schwarzschild & Sulzberger were admitted to the combine, they became "G", and the Swifts "H".

The whole United States was divided up into territories. These territories also always were referred to by letters.

Every Monday Henry Veeder received two reports from the managers of the concerns in the pool.

One report showed every pound of meat shipped from the slaughter houses by the concern and its destination; the other indicated the price received for every car of beef sold.

Veeder tabulated the statements so that they showed whether or not the amount of business each concern had done during the week was in accord with the pooling agreement.

Then, every Tuesday afternoon, the millionaire heads of the six packing concerns, met in the musty room in the Counselman building, and Henry Veeder passed the reports around the table.

The millionaires examined them, and each saw at a glance just how much business had been